

Vilas County Forestry, Recreation, & Land Committee Minutes

5 February 2014

Members Present: Ralph Sitzberger, Chair
Leon Kukanich
Maynard Bedish

Members Excused: Charles Rayala, Jr.
Sig Hjermvick

Others Present: Lawrence Stevens, CF, Forest Administrator
Constance Valkenaar, Administrative Secretary
John Gagnon, CF, Assistant Forest Administrator
Dale Mayo, Recreation Administrator
Jill Nemec, DNR Forestry Liaison
Ken Anderson, Media
Holly Tomlanovich, Sno-Eagles

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Sitzberger, who advised that this was a public meeting and that notification of the meeting with the agenda was sent per the agenda. This notification was verified by the Forestry Department Administrative Secretary.

- 1) Motion by Kukanich, seconded by Bedish, to approve the agenda in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Motion by Bedish, seconded by Kukanich, to approve the minutes of the 8 January 2014 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3) Closed Session: Motion by Kukanich, seconded by Bedish to adjourn into closed session pursuant to §19.85(1)(e), Wis. Stats. for the purpose of deliberating the purchase of public property located in the Town of Conover. Roll Call Vote: Bedish, Kukanich, Sitzberger all voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) Return to Open Session: Motion by Bedish, seconded by Kukanich, to adjourn closed session and return to open session. Roll Call Vote: Bedish aye, Kukanich aye, Sitzberger aye. Motion carried unanimously. No action taken.
- 5) Tax Deed Parcel #26-2885 Request to Redeem: Refer to minutes of 8 January 2014 meeting wherein the Committee passed a motion to allow redemption of this tax deed parcel under specific conditions. The deadline for this offer was 16 January 2014, and the former owners did not comply with the terms of the offer. The Chair advised that as far as the Committee is concerned, this one is done and set and if nothing else the Committee should consider putting this parcel up for sale and get it back on the tax roll unless the County has another use for the parcel. The Committee directed Stevens and Gagnon to look at the parcel for possible timber value.
- 6) Land Acquisition #8-1487, 1488, 1489: Gagnon provided the Committee with an update on the status of this possible acquisition. As directed by the Committee, an appraisal was completed. Discussion. Gagnon will keep the Committee informed of further developments.
- 7) Timber Sales Contracts/Forest Management: Gagnon gave his report, a copy of which is attached.

- 8) Tree Planting Bids: Bids were received and opened for 2104 Spring Tree Planting as follows:
- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| EK Forestry, LLC | \$ 8,976.00 |
| Northwoods Forestry, Inc, | \$ 7,981.20 |
| Superior Forestry Services | \$ 7,430.28 |
- Motion by Bedish, seconded by Kukanich, to accept the bid of Superior Forestry Service, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.
- 9) County Forest Aerial Photos: Stevens gave the Committee an update of the status for arrangements to have a new set of aerial photos made; the most recent set is from 2000. In the past, a new set was made every 5-8 years. Estimated cost may be around \$28,000.00. The Chair advised Stevens to go ahead and solicit bids.
- 10) UWSP Research Project Request: A request has been received from UWSP. The objective of the project is to determine the best time for a first thinning in an Oak stand. The project will involve taking plots and borings of thinned and unthinned stands. Motion by Bedish, seconded by Kukanich, to allow access for this project. Motion carried unanimously. Stevens will obtain a Certificate of Insurance from the University.
- 11) Parks & Recreation: Snowmobile Program/Snowmo Trail Safety: Mayo gave an update. The Committee had previously been provided with a written report.
- 12) Meetings: Mayo will attend the Governor's Snowmobile Recreation Council meeting in St. Germain on 6 & 7 February. The Annual Sustainable Forestry Conference will be 10 April in Florence, if any Committee members are interested.
- Monthly Budget Summary: Nothing to report.

Next Meeting Date: The next regular meeting of the Forestry Committee will be 5 March 2014, 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse Conference Rooms. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Minutes reflect the recorders' (Valkenaar) notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.